

for the benefit of the regiment. 'Tis true, the commutation to be received from certain classes of citizens by this bill, was to be paid into the treasury, but this arose from a suggestion, that persons acknowledged by our laws to be conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, would be equally so of paying money to be laid out in arms, and would be better satisfied if it were paid into the treasury.

The clause of our bill, which you propose to strike out by the 14th amendment, secures, in our opinion, to our fellow-citizens, an invaluable right. We mean that of applying to the usual tribunal of justice whenever they may find themselves aggrieved by that summary mode of procedure which the necessity of having an active and effective militia has compelled us to sanction; abuse of power is almost inseparable from the possession of any considerable portion of it, and ought, as far as possible, to be guarded against by the representatives of a free people; for these reasons we cannot concur with this amendment.

The 16th amendment formed a part of the bill as introduced into this house, and was struck out from a conviction of the inconvenience which would possibly attend it. Volunteer companies may be partial in their formation, particularly in the country; they may be made up from different bounds of enrolment, or may be confined to citizens of a certain degree of property. In a country intersected like ours, by waters, individuals in necks and peninsulas may by these means be excluded from those companies most contiguous to them, and compelled to attend places of muster at a greater distance. These reasons induced us to reject this part of the bill as first proposed, and influence us in not adopting your amendment. We hope they will have sufficient weight with you, to induce you to recede from these amendments.

By order,

W. HARWOOD, clk.

Which was read the first and second time, and agreed to.

On motion, ORDERED, That the committee appointed to prepare a message to the senate respecting the bill to repeal the act of assembly therein mentioned, be discharged.

Mr. Seney, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled, An act for the support of Rebecca Fowler; which was read the first and second time by especial order, and passed.

The bill to authorize and empower Talbot Shipley, of Anne-Arundel county, to sell and dispose of part of the estate of George Shipley, who is insane, for the purpose therein mentioned, was read the second time, and passed.

Mr. Dennis brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following resolution, viz.

Whereas by a resolution, passed at November session, 1790, empowering the auditor-general, under the direction of the governor and council, to settle and adjust all open and unsettled accounts between the state and individuals, doubts are entertained whether claims against persons whose property has been confiscated and sold by the state are comprehended therein, and it being the intention of the general assembly that all claims whatsoever, which individuals in any manner have against the said state, should be adjusted in manner prescribed in the above recited resolve; therefore, RESOLVED, That the auditor-general, under the direction of the governor and council, be and he is hereby empowered to settle and adjust all claims that may be presented to him by citizens of this state against persons whose property has been confiscated and sold; provided, that in no case payment shall be made to a greater amount than the net proceeds of the sales of such property so confiscated and sold.

Which was read.

The further supplement to an act, entitled, An act to regulate the inspection of tobacco, passed November session, 1789, was read the second time, and passed.

The house adjourns till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

F R I D A Y, December 20, 1793.

THE house met. Present the same members as on yesterday. The proceedings of yesterday were read.

Mr. Waggaman, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker a bill, entitled; An act to open a road from Federalburgh, in the North-west fork of Nanticoke river, in Dorchester county, to Cratcher's ferry in said county; which was read the first and second time by especial order, and passed.

The bill for establishing a company for opening and extending the navigation of the river Pocomoke, and for other purposes, was read the second time, and passed.

A petition from William Mitchell, praying an act of insolvency, was preferred, read, and referred to the committee on petitions of a similar nature.

Mr. Wootton, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of Ruth Anne Young, of Prince-George's county, after mature deliberation thereon are of opinion, that this house may grant the prayer of the petitioner under such regulations as will effectually prevent any injury to the minors. All which is submitted to the honourable house.

By order,

J. O'BRYON, 3d. clk.

Which was read.

The bill to alter the mode of collecting the county tax in Harford county, was read the second time by especial order, and passed.

Mr. Kerr, from the committee, brings in and delivers to Mr. Speaker the following report:

THE committee to whom was referred the petition of William Fitzhugh, of Washington county, report, that they have examined the facts therein stated and find them to be true. The memorialist